

of expansion, and it is therefore essential that expansion should take place rapidly and in a humid atmosphere. Under the bell jar the veils remained fairly rigid for three or four hours, and the stalks for 24 hours.

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MOSQUITO LARVAE IN THE PITCHERS OF NEPENTHES.

In the *Journal of the Straits Branch, R. Asiatic Society*, No. 22 p. 430 (1890) Mr. H. N. Ridley published a note stating that he had observed mosquito larvae in the pitchers of *Nepenthes ampullaria* growing in the Gardens Jungle, and that he had reared some of these to maturity in the pitcher. This was probably the first record of such an occurrence. The fact was subsequently confirmed by Mr. Percy Groom (*Annals of Botany* Vol. 7. p. 231). The presence of digestive enzymes in the water contained in the pitchers makes it remarkable that the larvae are able to develop to maturity in such a medium. It is perhaps noteworthy that the pitchers of *N. ampullaria* have a small lid which is bent back, so that more rain water is able to enter than into the pitchers of some other species; this additional water would cause a dilution of the enzymes present. However, Mr. Burkill has observed on Penang Hill that mosquito larvae are easily found in the large lidded pitchers of *Nepenthes albomarginata*. In the paper quoted in the next paragraph there is no reference to the species of *Nepenthes* concerned.

Since Mr. Ridley's observation there have been numerous similar records, and in a recent number of the *Bulletin of Entomological Research* (Vol. 14 pt. 1 pp. 1-2) Mr. F. W. Edwards gives a list of species of mosquitos which have been found breeding in *Nepenthes* pitchers in the Oriental Region. Most of the records are from the Malay Peninsula and the total number of species is sixteen. A new record in this paper is the collection of *Megarhinus metallicus* in *Nepenthes* pitchers on Cameron's Highlands by Dr. H. P. Hacker.

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THE FLORAS OF THE MALAY PENINSULA. BORNEO AND THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Volumes 1, 2 and 3 of Mr. H. N. Ridley's *Flora of the Malay Peninsula* (London, 1922—1924) have appeared, and volumes 2 and 3 of Mr. E. D. Merrill's *Enumeration of Philippine Flowering Plants* (Manila, 1923). Further the latter's *Bibliographic Index of Bornean plants* (*Journal of the Straits Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, special number, 1921) is available. With these